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11 games you missed
in 2009

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Established in 1935

THE INKWELL

Week of January 14, 2010

theinkwellonline.com

Volume 79, Issue 1

Pay to Stay:
Did you make the
deadline?

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Mandatory fee doubles for spring 2010

BoR says increase is necessary to maintain quality of education

By Mike Choromanski
Staff Reporter

In late 2009, due to the struggles of America's current economy, the University Board of Regents (BoR) approved an 8 percent budget reduction plan for the University System of Georgia (USG) and implemented a higher mandatory fee to offset the cut.

Until the spring 2010 semester, AASU's mandatory fee was only \$75. The new plan doubles the fee to \$150.

The fee applies to everyone, including students on the Guaranteed Tuition Plan or "Fixed for Four."

John Millsaps, the BoR associate vice chancellor of media and publications said the mandatory fee increase is based on sector, and the amount of the increase varies according to each institution. Two-year institutions have the lowest mandatory fee increase, and larger institutions such as UGA have a mandatory fee increase of \$100.

Millsaps said increasing the mandatory fee for students was a last resort.

"It's real simple. The state

is out of money. The last thing we wanted to do was have a direct impact on students," Millsaps said.

"Georgia has an enviable reputation for its low tuition costs."

Millsaps said the biggest problem is that state tax collections, which pay a percentage of students' education, continue to decline.

Millsaps said since students are supplementing their school's loss of tax revenue, schools will most likely be able to maintain

their current quality of education.

"It is better to give you an education than to just expose you to it," Millsaps said.

According to USG's web site, the fee increase is not intended to be permanent.

"The fee's increase has a sunset provision for June 2012. It would have to be renewed to stay up," Millsaps said.

If our state's economy isn't better by then, then we have bigger problems."

Post-graduate student Judy Cousins is taking only one class this semester and believes she is paying a lot for student fees.

"I'm paying for this out of pocket, instead of most students who get a lot of financial aid," Cousins said.

I'm not sure, but since I'm only taking one class this semester, I think my student fees are more than my tuition."

If students would like to know more about the mandatory fee increase, they can either call the Bursar's Office at 344-3243, or visit the USG's web site <http://www.usg.edu>.

Dr. Paul Mullen, professor of political science, dies at 48



Photo courtesy of Mary Mullen Gulendon

Dr. Mullen with his nephew in an undated photo. The AASU political science professor died on Christmas Eve.

By Carmen Singleton and
Jenny Lambeth
Kylie Horn contributed

Dr. Paul Fabian Mullen, a professor in the political science department, unexpectedly passed away on Christmas Eve at age 48.

His death is a shocking heartbreak for family, friends and the AASU community. Mullen was fortunate to be surrounded by his family in Savannah.

"Dr. Mullen meant a lot to me as well as others, and he should be properly acknowledged for his superb intellect, fatherly patience and the contribution of education he gave to his students at Armstrong," said junior Jen Adams.

Mullen was ill for several years and received a kidney transplant in August 2004.

Mullen will be remem-

bered for his educational success as a professor and as a student. He graduated in 1979 from Quigley Catholic High School in Pennsylvania. Mullen was an undergraduate at the University of Virginia, class of 1983. Afterwards, he attended UCLA where he earned his Juris Doctorate in 1986. Mullen also received his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh with a concentration in political science. He obtained a graduate certificate in Western European studies in 2002.

"Mullen had an endearing sense of humor, which he was cleverly able to combine with teaching," Adams said. "[His students] will miss his comic outlook on life, as well as his invaluable advice."

Students are working on

creating a symbol of dedication of his presence on campus. Donations are encouraged and are being collected by Adams and Luke Farmer.

"It was a huge shock for me. He was a great teacher and a true friend. He let me do an independent study with him this fall. And that helped me in a big way. I think Armstrong lost one of its best teachers," said junior Brad Curran.

Columnist and web editor Luke Farmer dedicated this week's column to what he's learned from Dr. Mullen.

SGA holds first meeting of 2010

By Mike Choromanski
Staff Reporter

The Student Government Association (SGA) held its first meeting of the new semester on Jan. 11. Guest speakers Chief Wayne Willcox of the University Police Department (UPD) and Dr. John McGuthry of Computer Services spoke to members regarding upcoming plans and concerns. Also, Sen. Ida Benson-Jaja was sworn in.

The meeting opened with Al Harris, SGA adviser, who passed out a survey for the senators to fill out anonymously in order to get an idea of the SGA's current status.

"We want to get a snapshot of the organization as of this moment," Harris said.

Willcox answered questions regarding, traffic safety, parking rules and campus security. He urged students to buy their parking decals by Jan. 18.

Willcox said that for the purposes of efficiency, students will have to place their parking decals on the rear of their vehicles in the fall.

He also wanted students aware of the fact that the campus police station is always open.

Former Armstrong Junior College professor dies at 96

Dr. Martha Fay taught nursing students between 1944-1949

By Carmen Singleton
News Editor
news.inkwell@gmail.com

Former Armstrong Junior College professor Dr. Martha B. Fay died in her sleep on Dec. 19, 2009, at Hospice Savannah. She was 96 years old.

Born in 1913 in Fort Smith, Ark., Fay became educated in a modern discipline, earning a doctorate in genetics at the University of Illinois at Urbana.

She married Dr. Richard William Fay, a researcher with the U.S. Public Health Service, at the Unitarian Church in Philadelphia in 1941.

The couple lived in Jefferson City, Mo., until Richard Fay's job was transferred to Savannah in 1944.

Fay taught biology and chemistry to nursing students at Armstrong Junior College between 1944-1949.

"My mother was very thorough. I remember students studying anatomy at our kitchen table," said Mary Nelson, Fay's oldest daughter.

Fay served 16 years on the Savannah-Chatham County Board of Education and was its president for four years.

She served 24 years on the county board of health, stepping down earlier this year.

The day after her birthday, on Nov. 19, 2008, dozens dedicated the health department's main building on Eisenhower Drive, "Dr. Martha B. Fay Public Health Center," as a token of their appreciation.

"She thought it was going to be a paper certificate. Everyone kept it quiet. She was very surprised, and that is hard to do with Mother," Nelson said.

son said.

Nelson said her mother was a social activist, but family was her primary focus.

"She was very open, caring, and a fighter for rights. But she always managed to put family first," Nelson said.

Dr. Diane Weems, chief medical officer of the Chatham County Health Department, said Fay was an inspiration to her when she came to public health.

"She was an inspiration to female professionals. She exemplified someone who balanced her professional career and community activities with her family," Weems said.

Fay's Memorial Service is Jan. 23 at the First African Baptist Church at 1 p.m.



Photos courtesy of Sally Silbermann
Above: Dr. Martha Fay.
Below right: (L to R) Fay, Chatham County Commission Chair Pete Liakakis, Savannah Mayor Otis Johnson and Chatham County Commissioner Harris Odell.
Below left: Dr. Diane Weems, Chatham County Health Department Chief Medical Officer, and Dr. Martha Fay at the public health center dedication.



Check Inside

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report

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receives reaccreditation

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Campus Briefs

AASU observes MLK Day

AASU is closed, Monday Jan. 18 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

The Pirate Food Court and the Daily Perk will be closed.

Quiznos will be open for its regular hours of operation from 10:30 a.m.-10 p.m.

Lane Library is also closed.

AASU faculty member
recognized

Russell Watjen, associate vice president for enrollment management, was recognized as a Diamond Honoree by the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) foundation on Jan. 5.

The ACPA foundation recognizes a small group of educators who have made significant contributions of leadership to their institutions.

Watjen, one of only 16 individuals recognized, will be honored during an award ceremony at the annual ACPA convention in Boston in March 2010.

Watjen arrived at AASU in June 2008. He oversees all areas of enrollment services, including recruitment, admissions, financial aid, the registrar's office, and student success and advisement.

New instructions for logging
on to GIL

The University System of Georgia (USG) is instituting a new Personal Identification Number (PIN), which is required for all users to access their GIL account beginning Jan. 7.

Due to federal and state privacy regulations, all USG libraries now require a PIN for login in addition to your AASU ID and last name at login screen.

There is a third box for a required PIN. A random PIN has been generated for every individual with a library circulation account.

For instructions, visit http://library.armstrong.edu/pin_instructions.pdf.

If students have any questions or problems, call the Lane Library Circulation Desk at 344-3027.

NEWS

Jan. 16: PowerScore LSAT Preparation Course in University Hall 157 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Jan 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day, university closed in observance
Jan. 20: International Student Organization Meeting in Gamble Hall 205 from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
University Curriculum Committee in University Hall 282 from 5:15 p.m. to 7 p.m.

AASU’s health-science program receives reaccreditation through 2015

By Brad Curran
Staff Reporter

AASU’s Master of Health Services Administration (MHSA) received a full reaccreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Management Education (CAHME), which took effect in 2009 and is effective through 2015.

This marks the second time the MHSA has received accreditation from CAHME.

“We first obtained accreditation in 2005,” said Dr. Joey Crosby, professor of health sciences and program coordinator.

“It took seven years to get accredited from the time we came into being because the accreditation process is very in-depth,” he said. “There are only about 70 programs nationwide accredited by CAHME, and AASU’s is unique because we’re small. It is often in much larger universities.”

Crosby said the program went through a candidacy process, which took several years, and in 2008 was up for reaccreditation. MHSA went through more work than before. This time they are accredited for six years, which is the maximum accreditation time.

AASU holds the distinction of being one of only two Georgia colleges whose Health Sciences program is accredited by CAHME; the

other is Georgia State.

Crosby said that this is due in part to the arduous process involved in achieving accreditation from the organization.

“It’s such an involved process, and CAHME accreditation especially by far the most work, very labor intensive, and even a large university wouldn’t want to delve into it because it’s so involved and expensive,” Crosby said.

“I can’t foresee in the near future any other college in the state pursuing a CAHME-accredited program other than us and Georgia State, and Georgia State’s has been around forever.”

Dr. Sandy Streeter, a professor in the MHSA, commented on the significance of the accreditation as it relates to a student’s ability to be marketable within health sciences professions.

“If your program’s not accredited, you just aren’t very competitive,” he said. “CAHME is an accrediting agency that really puts your program on the map. Their criterion is pretty strict. Accreditation is incredibly important, especially for professional programs, and not only the department, but the university as a whole feel that if a program can be accredited, it should be.”

Crosby gave an outline of what the MHSA program

entails for students seeking to enter the field.

“It’s a 53-hour program, and it takes two years minimum to complete. It’s basically a business degree for people wanting a degree in health management, so students have to take a very broad curriculum in management courses. And then we do have some health specific courses. You really end up learning to be a manager and a leader of people,” Crosby said.

Crosby also pointed out that students entering the program would be ill prepared without prior experience in the hospital environment.

“We have about 55 [to] 56 students enrolled in the masters program, and we typically admit roughly 25 per year,” Crosby said.

“The ideal student for us is one having some experience in the health field, be it volunteering in a hospital, interning, as much of that as one can possibly do, we strongly recommend, because this is a discipline that emphasizes experience. The students thinking of applying, I ask them what experience they have, if they say none, I say get some.”

Streeter emphasized gaining experience prior to entering the program as well.

“Think about all of the different services hospitals

offer, and you see that you need the managerial part of it, you need marketing, and that’s something you acquire through some direct exposure in the hospital environment, such as through interning or volunteer work,” he said.

“It’s mostly a managerial program, but they also need to be familiar with patient outcomes, ethical issues, so yes it is management, but it’s very broad based. Working around a hospital, you need the experience, and Crosby and the program heavily emphasize experience before a student comes in.”

Crosby said that due to the prestige and earning potential that CAHME’s seal of approval grants, the MHSA is set on reapplying once the current accreditation expires.

“I have students who have graduated in the last five years who are currently earning well over \$100,000 as hospital administrators and such. Our first accreditation was from 2005 to 2008, and now that it’s the full six years, we have every intention to apply for reaccreditation once it expires this time,” Crosby said.

Campus Life

Where we ask you what you think.

Reported by Joshua Guallett
Staff Reporter

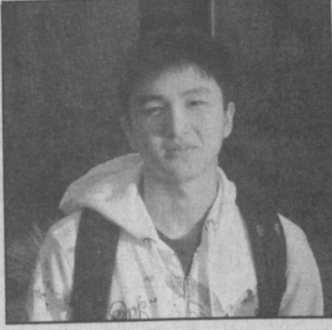
Voices on Campus

“Do you think the mandatory fee is needed to offset the budget?”



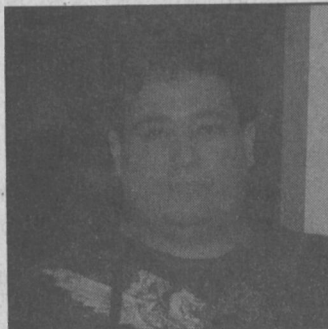
“No, I feel that it is ridiculous and an unnecessary fee that we should be able to pocket.”

Earlishia Collins, radiology, freshman



“Compared to the rest of tuition, it’s not that big of a deal.”

Kok Tan, engineering, freshman



“I don’t know everything that’s goes on with the budget but I feel that they could work a little better with the budget instead simply increasing student fees.”

Ross Hevener, information technology, senior



“I’m new so I really didn’t even know about it. But when is it ever good you have to pay more?”

Ecclesia Ejalleta, pre-radiology, sophomore

Get more opinions at www.theinkwellonline.com

Six by Six

Six students answer in six words.

“How would you spend the mandatory \$150 if you were not required to pay it?”

“It would be probably on books.”

Allen Love, undeclared, freshman

“Spend it very wisely with stocks.”

Clint Martin, physical therapy, sophomore

“Put it in my savings account.”

Danielle Stewart, biology, junior

“I would buy a Sony Blog.”

Sonika Patel, pre-pharmacy, freshman

“I don’t know, cell phone bill.”

Mike McGuire, biology, sophomore

“I would spend it on gas.”

Destiny Morales, nursing, freshman

Do you agree? Or are they way off? Visit www.theinkwellonline.com and click the Campus Life tab, then weigh in with your opinion on this week’s topics.

Crime Blotter

By Stuart Grosse
Staff Reporter

Officer Rushworth responded to a call of aggravated assault at Compass Point on Dec. 2 at 10:30 p.m. The victim’s mother called the University Police Department (UPD) on the student’s behalf. The victim reported that she and her boyfriend of one year had become involved in a heated argument.

She said that she had told her boyfriend that when his father brought her home the other day, the father had tried to “come on to her.” Her boyfriend called her a liar and a psychopath, then started to leave. The victim said she was hugging him tightly and telling him not to leave when he grabbed her, threw her on the bed and began choking her until she was about to pass out. He then said he was leaving and that she could have his jacket.

When she again tried to keep him from leaving, he pulled a knife on her, and told her to leave him alone, and that if she did not, he was going to “beat her until she was asleep.”

The boyfriend left to meet his ride (which the victim identified as his father) but came back because he left his cell phone. She reported that he again pulled the knife on the victim when she started to argue, and that she grabbed his legs and held on until he dragged her back to her room and began to stomp on her until she let go.

The victim said that she did not want to press charges. EMS was called, and the victim was taken to

the hospital.

Officer Perry was patrolling University Crossings at approximately 1:02 a.m. on Nov. 24 when he noticed a white Chevy Cavalier parked in front of the 300 building. This vehicle had been under observation because it was suspected that University Crossings resident Jessica Sampson was allowing her boyfriend, Jonathon Horton, to live with her on campus, in violation of housing rules. Perry notified the dispatcher, and Sgt. Gorman of the UPD notified him that he would be calling the Community Assistant (CA) on duty to search the room and ban Horton from campus if he was found.

When the CAs arrived, Officer Hitt stationed himself to the rear of the building, while Gorman and Perry went inside. Officers found the rear door of the room slightly ajar, and found Horton hiding on the top landing. Sampson and Horton were notified that he was banned from campus, and if he was seen on the property again he would be charged with criminal trespass. Horton was given a copy of the ban form; his picture was taken, and he was escorted off campus.

Rushworth was dispatched to UPD headquarters at 9:27 p.m. on Nov. 25, to speak to a young woman about her lost phone. After she called her phone, a man on the other end said that he would only return it to her if she paid him \$25. The victim and the suspect, Bamari Boston, made arrangements to meet on campus in a room in Compass Point. Rushworth and Officer Woods met the victim and her friends there

and waited for Boston. After more calls, the meeting was moved to the Kroger parking lot.

The victim and her friends were transported to UPD HQ to stay with dispatch in case any other calls were made so that the information could be relayed to the officers. Boston said that he was in a blue car with his headlights on and was standing beside the car. Woods and Rushworth drove to the Kroger parking lot, located the vehicle and boxed it in. Officer Mike Johanson of the Savannah-Chatham Metro Police Department (SCMPD) responded to a request for assistance. Boston and the three subjects in his car were all banned from campus.

Perry responded to a call from dispatch on Dec. 1, at 2:33 a.m., stating that a CA needed assistance with a party in University Terrace I, room 104, that had alcohol involved. Perry spoke to all parties involved but was unable to find the individual who purchased the alcohol for the students. All involved parties said that Max, a white male from the army, provided the beer. Hitt located two students who had left the scene and returned. No arrests were made, but Housing informed Perry that Judicial Affairs would be taking action against the students.

Enrollment Services to students: Pay up or get lost

By Carmen Singleton
New Editor
news.inkwell@gmail.com

The last payment deadline for students to pay their balance is Jan. 13 by midnight.

If the bill is not paid, Enrollment Services will drop students Thursday morning Jan. 14.

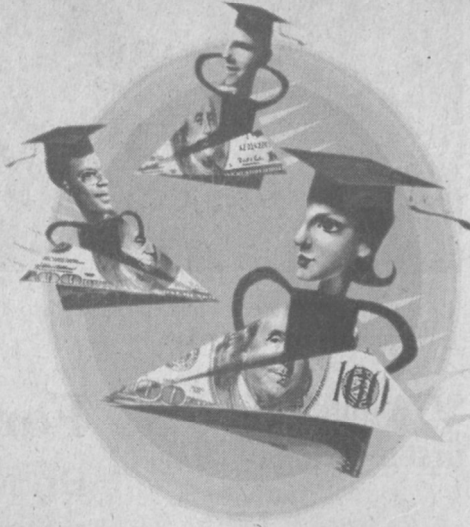
Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management, Russell Watjen said students can re-enroll, but they have to pay the amount owed and provide proof from Financial Aid that the bill is paid.

Watjen said there is no guarantee that once a student is re-enrolled, the student will be permitted back into classes.

“The final say is up to the professor. If the student pays, we will reinstate the student, but it is up to the professor. Even if the student pays, they could be dropped by the department,” Watjen said.

Watjen said the first deadline was Dec. 15 and a little over 100 students were dropped; the second deadline was Jan. 4 and approximately 500 students were dropped, but many re-enrolled.

For students who cannot enroll in their original classes, Watjen said they



The Dallas Morning News MCT

can enroll in Flex Term, but classes are limited.

Students can check their balances through their S.H.I.P. account in the financial aid section under “What You Owe.”

SGA | FROM PAGE 1

When asked about security issues, Willcox said there are security cameras all around campus, and measures are put into effect to see that the school stays well lit at night.

Willcox also touched on the subject of rumors about student mistreatment from campus police officers.

He said until someone is “under arrest,” that person and the officer are engaged in what is technically a matter of customer service.

“If someone has a genuine problem with the way they are treated, [they can] come and see me,” Willcox said.

Willcox concluded by stating that he and the campus police are for students who

need them. He also promised to continue his efforts to make the UPD more professional and integral on campus.

“You all are moving towards professional careers,” Willcox said. “We’re moving towards becoming a more professional police department.”

After McGuthry, the chief executive officer of computer services, gave a short warning about the dangers of web sites that may harm computers, he discussed plans for AASU’s technological future, such as students being able to print from their laptops at the library.

The meeting continued with the SGA swearing in Benson-Jaja and reading announce-

ments.

Sen. Ty Slater made the first announcement stating that the next Financial Aid Forum would be held on Feb. 3.

SGA also announced that AASU Homecoming would be held on Jan. 27-29.

Friday, Jan. 29 marks AASU’s next Talent Showcase.

There will be a finance budget hearing in February, and Treasurer Zerik Samples said the SGA’s current budget balance was \$23,390.75.

The next SGA meeting is Jan. 25 in Solms Hall Room 108 from noon-1 p.m.

EDITORIALS
& OPINIONS

The Inkwell welcomes and invites letters to the editor. All submissions must be less than 350 words, and they must be signed. E-mail your submission to inkwell@armstrong.edu.
Opinions expressed in op/ed columns or in editorial cartoons do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the newspaper.
The Inkwell reserves the right to edit for grammar and spelling.

A spreadsheet for happiness? Thanks, but I'll take the wine

By Susan Reimer
The Baltimore Sun
(MCT)

What does it take to make you happy?

Apparently, most of us don't know, because there is a ton of scientific research and just plain navel-gazing out there that's supposed to help us figure it out.

Is it the music on your iPod or an application for your iPhone? Is it a walk in nature, or is it nurture?

Is it talk therapy or music therapy? Is it time for yourself or selflessness? Is it physical exercise - or the exercise of free will?

Can you map it out on a spreadsheet and make a plan with happiness as the goal, or does it "just happen"?

Is happiness, as one researcher suggested, contagious like AIDS: The wider your network of partners, the more likely you are to catch it?

One definition of happiness might be seeing the tail end of 2009 go out the door, taking with it all the economic wreckage of the last year. Certainly the new decade could not be worse, so it must be better, right?

I thought I knew what made me happy - a yoga class to ease my muscles and my mind, wine with a girlfriend, a movie with my husband, a day off with a

list of modest errands to get me out the door, garden chores that produce an honest sweat.

Apparently, happiness is much more complicated than that. We just didn't realize how difficult it is to be happy.

Puppies and kittens make people happy. So, apparently, does working with farm animals. Because we don't do it much, caring and feeding such large creatures makes us feel more confident and improves our self-esteem.

People in Hawaii are very happy. But if we all move there to be happy, we will all end up unhappy. Congestion and poor air quality make us unhappy, as evidenced by the level of unhappiness in New York and California, two places where lots of people moved because they thought they would be happy living there.

(We are pretty unhappy in Maryland, too. The state is ranked 40th out of 50 states in the happiness scale, according to British researchers. No word on the happiness level in London, however.)

Gretchen Rubin is very happy, probably because her book, titled "The Happiness Project," has just been published. The former lawyer and clerk for Supreme Court Justice

Sandra Day O'Connor makes the case that happiness can be achieved by sitting down with a spreadsheet and a calendar and making a month-by-month plan for achieving happiness that includes goals and subgoals.

I know people who would be happy doing that, but I know a lot more people who would be happy having wine with a girlfriend, if you know what I mean.

The folks at Apple must be happy because they've developed a "Live Happy" application for the iPhone that prompts users to express gratitude, recall a happy moment or an act of kindness and look at happy photos, presumably on their iPhone.

In this case, happiness sells for \$9.99 and it comes with a smiley face.

In the same way that having a mildly depressed roommate can ruin your child's freshman year in college, happiness is infectious, according to British and Harvard researchers. And they found the happiest people are those who are at the center of a large social network.

"We know people who are most susceptible to HIV are people who have lots of partners," one of the researchers told the Los Angeles Times. "This is the same thing."

Which is, of course, one way to look at happiness.

They also found that if you have a happy friend living within a half-mile, you are 42 percent more likely to be happy. But if your happy friend lives two miles away, you are only 22 percent happier.

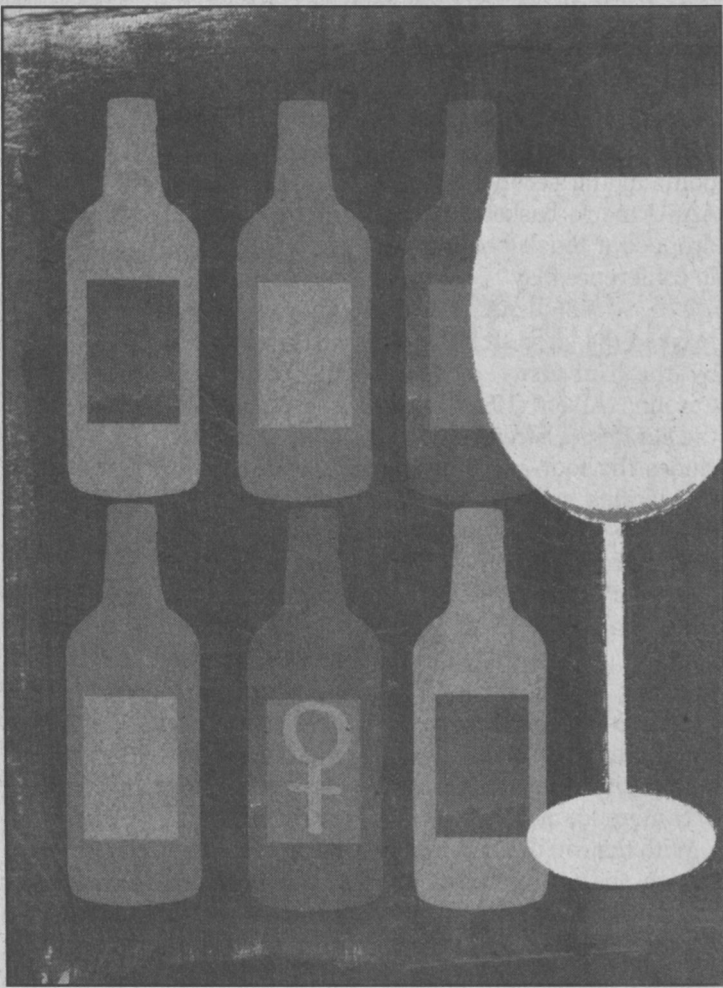
(You know the joke: Now you have to move.)

These same researchers make the case that since people who report themselves to be happy live longer, healthier lives, happiness is a public health issue and there is a role for government in making sure people are happy.

All of which means that yoga classes are going to get really crowded with people the government has ordered to attend. And if California is any example, they will immediately become unhappy yoga students.

Or we will all be getting wine bottles in the mail instead of rebate checks.

That would make me and my girlfriends happy, though I can't speak for you.



MCT



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Why it matters
It's Time

By Luke Farmer
Web Editor

Paul Fabian Mullen was an AASU professor. He was an accomplished lawyer and a former assistant attorney general for the state of West Virginia. He was incredibly smart and incisive and what's more, he was my friend. He lived across the street from me.

Dr. Mullen was found

He was a great man ... I have lost a friend and a mentor—a guide to how I may want my own career to unfold.

before Christmas. He showed me that a lawyer can take many different paths with their careers and still hold true to their ideals; he reinforced my political and social beliefs and constantly exposed me to new ideas and solutions and points of view that I had never taken the time to consider before.

He was a great man and his sudden death came as quite a terrible blow. I have lost a friend and a mentor—a guide to how I may want my own career to unfold. But this isn't

about my singular grief. Not only are there others, friends of mine, that are suffering through this loss, perhaps even more greatly than myself, there is now a hole where there should be a brilliant professor for future classes of students.

I count myself among the lucky ones. I had the fortune to know Dr. Mullen for years, take classes from him, take advice from him, shoot the breeze

with him—no other students will ever have that same wonderful opportunity that I had, and it fills me with a terrible sense of sorrow.

The university has lost a true asset, not in just an academic sense, but in the form of an educator truly dedicated to their work and to his students. I want to erect statues, establish scholarships, hell, I'd even take a plaque, as long as we do something to honor his memory, and what he did

for some of the students of this school.

I hope this is one thing the typical AASU apathy does not touch. E-mail me so we can get this underway. Future students and professors alike should be able to know about an accomplished, intelligent man who knew how to work, how to have fun and who did precisely what he wanted to do with his life. They can be inspired by his example.

The time for morning my friend is over, the time for celebrating him has begun.

Luke Farmer's views are his own and do not necessarily represent those of The Inkwell Editorial Board.

SPORTS

Jan. 16: Women's Basketball vs. GCSU 1:30pm
Men's Basketball vs. GCSU 3:30pm
Jan. 18: Women's Basketball vs. Montevallo 5:30pm
Men's Basketball vs. Montevallo 7:30pm
Jan. 20: Women's Basketball at Lander 5:30pm
Men's Basketball at Lander 7:30

Pirate basketball suits up for 2010 action

AASU remains winless in PBC with 78-66 loss

By Luke Armstrong
Staff Reporter

Despite leading by five at halftime and up by 11 at one point in the second half the AASU men's basketball team dropped a tough home game in conference play.

The 78-66 AASU loss marked the sixth straight win by the University of South Carolina Aiken (USCA) over the Pirates; a streak that includes the four-overtime loss the Pirates suffered the last time these two teams met in last season's Peach Belt Conference (PBC) semifinals.

The Jan. 9 PBC matchup between the AASU Pirates (5-7, 0-3 PBC) and the USCA Pacers (8-3, 3-1 PBC) also signaled two teams who are going in opposite directions early on in conference play.

With the win the Pacers stay among the top teams in the league while the Pirates remain as one of only two teams without a win in the PBC East division.

So far this season the AASU men's squad continues to struggle down the stretch in close games. Over the last 5:11 of the game the Pirates went 2-6 from the field and 3-6 from the free throw line.

During the same span of time the Pacers took what was only a two point lead and opened it up to a 12 point margin of victory.

The two halves of play were in stark contrast with one another. In the first half the Pirates played their opponent rather tough. They scored 18 points in the paint, versus USCA's 12, and generated 11 points off 11 turnovers.

Nursing a five-point lead coming out of the half AASU looked poised to take a sizable lead. At the 15:50 mark the Pirates led by 11 thanks to a bucket by Nigel Lee.

But the Pacers responded by going on a 10-0 run over the next three minutes to bring the lead for the home team back to only one.

Then USCA took the lead for good, 56-54 with 8:54 to go in the game, on a 3-pointer by Byron Faison. Faison was a part of a Pacer bench that accounted for 23 points in the second half and 41 points for the game.

The Pacer defense also took away the Pirates point in the paint during the second half. AASU, who scored 18 points

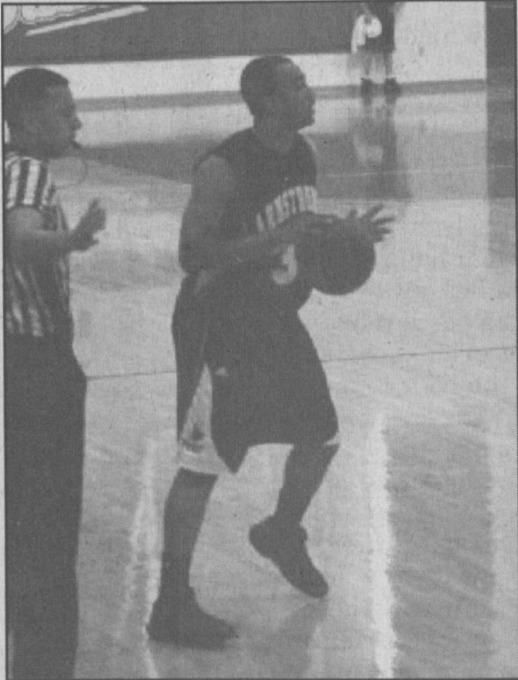


Photo courtesy of Sports Communications
Senior guard Keron McKenzie quickly dishes the ball inbounds during the Pirate loss to USC Aiken on Jan. 9.

in the paint in the first, only got 10 points inside for the rest of the game.



Lady Pirates handed its first loss in PBC play this season

By Luke Armstrong
Staff Reporter

The AASU women's basketball team played host to the University of South Carolina Aiken (USCA) Lady Pacers on Jan. 9 at Alumni Arena.

In only the third game in Peach Belt Conference (PBC) play for the Lady Pirates USCA was able to hold on late to give AASU its first PBC loss for the year.

With the loss AASU (5-6, 2-1 PBC) slips back under .500 for the season and USCA (6-7, 1-3 PBC) picked up its first win in league play so far

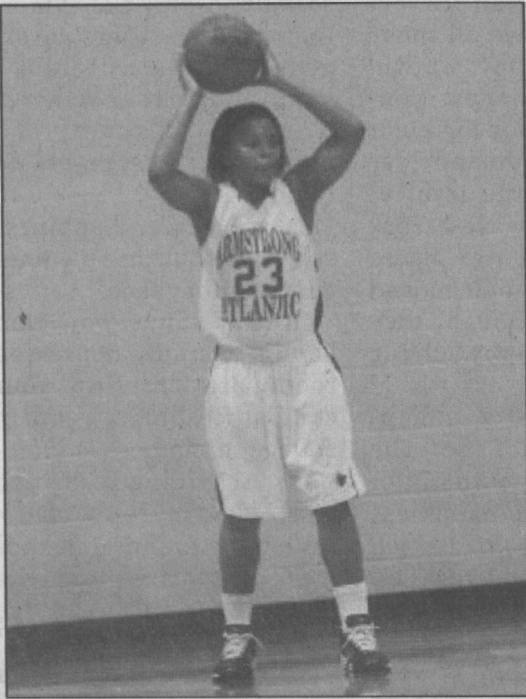


Photo courtesy of Sports Communications
Portia Jones inbounds a pass late in the Pirate loss to USC Aiken on Jan. 9.

this season. The game came down to second chance points. In the first half the two teams were evenly matched (three second chance points for AASU versus four for USCA) and the Lady Pirates went into the half up by seven, 35-28. But in the second half the Lady Pacers put up 12 second chance points to only two for the Lady Pirates.

AASU head coach Matt Schmidt knew going into the second half that rebounds were going to be a crucial part of the game.

"I told them at halftime that whoever won the battle of the boards would win the ball game," Schmidt said. "They (USCA) wanted it more on the offensive end. They did a nice job; you've got to give them credit."

Even though the Lady Pirates were beat on the boards in the second half they still hung in there and



never let USCA get more than a seven-point lead.

Also, with just 27 seconds to go in the game AASU had a chance to inbound the ball down by five in a two-possession game. But, the inbound pass slipped through Brooke Long's hands and just like that AASU's chances were dashed.

Not even an impressive long 3-pointer by Lauren Hall with .4 on the clock could do much more than make the final score look closer.

Schmidt addressed some of the issues he thinks his team will have to take care of in the coming weeks in order to do well in league play.

"We have to have consistency from night to night. We can't keep going into games not knowing who is going to produce for us," he said.

Lady Pirates come up huge over Lady Yellow Jackets

AASU blows out Allen 90-45

By Luke Armstrong
Staff Reporter

The AASU women's basketball team played its final non-conference game of the 2009-2010 season against the Lady Yellow Jackets of Allen University on Jan. 6.

It was clear from the outset that it was going to be a messy one. AASU opened up the game on a 13-0 run and didn't allow Allen to score a single point from the field until nearly five minutes were gone.

The Lady Pirates controlled every aspect of the game, generating 22 points off of 16 turnovers, 32 points in the paint and shooting a ridiculous 63.9 percent from the field. AASU went into the locker room at halftime up 54-15.

And probably the only reason the Lady Pirates didn't drop over 100 points on the Lady Yellow Jackets was that AASU slowed down its offense in the second half in an effort to work on fundamentals like ball movement as well as making sure to avoid possible injuries.

It was also a chance to work on the team's zone defense since the players don't run it very often.

But injuries were definitely prevalent on the team's and AASU head coach Matt Schmidt's mind, as they only dressed eight players for the game.

"We knew it was going to be ugly, but it was a win. Can't even say it was a good win, but we won and got out without anyone getting injured," Schmidt said.

Even though this shellacking might not have been

the greatest game to watch, the coach and fans were still happy with the effort the Lady Pirates gave.

AASU got production from all their players involved in the game. Each Lady Pirate who played scored point and five of them scored in the double digits.

Brooke Long, who came in off the bench, along with starter Portia Jones tied with 22 points to lead all scorers. Aprine Amirkhanyan, Lauren Hall and Dartyvia Thomas each scored in the double digits for AASU.

And the only player to get into the double digits for Allen was Kendra McMichael, who scored 10 points for the game.

The ridiculously lopsided victory for AASU helps them to improve to .500 on the season as they head into conference play.



Photos by Stephen Berend

Above: AASU sophomore Brooke Long takes a shot during the Jan. 6 game against Allen University. Below: Senior Lauren Hall powers through the Allen defense.



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Baseball, softball, basketball and - oh yeah - the 2008-2009 Division II tennis national champions are all proof that sports are alive and well at AASU. Get close to the players and the action

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England celebrates, but draw isn't a bad one for up-and-coming Yanks

By Michelle Kaufman
McClatchy Newspapers (MCT)

One English tabloid dubbed Group C of the 2010 World Cup "The Best English group since the Beatles." Hard to argue, really. You could just as easily say it is the best American group since . . . well, since the Beach Boys.

The implication, of course, is that it is an easy group, which is why another tabloid pointed out that the first letter of the four teams in the Group Algeria, England, Slovenia and Yanks (hey, that's what they called us), spells E-A-S-Y. With all due respect to Algeria and Slovenia, and they do deserve it after Algeria knocked off Egypt and Slovenia won at Russia, England and the U.S. will be heavily favored to move into the Round of 16, where one of them could face plodding, methodical, but very effective Germany.

It's about time the U.S. enters a World Cup with expectations, rather than hopes, of moving on to the knockout rounds.

After their remarkable run to the Confederations Cup final last summer, there is no reason to believe the Americans are incapable of earning a point—or maybe even (gasp!) three—against England. They are, after all, quite familiar with the English players as several Americans, including goalkeeper Tim Howard, ply their trade in the English Premier League. And they did knock off Spain and played Brazil tough at the World Cup tuneup tournament.

Speaking of which, that Confederations Cup experience in South Africa surely will give the U.S. an edge over teams that weren't there.

U.S. coach Bob Bradley, his

staff and players are familiar with the climate, altitude (5,000 sq. feet) and stadiums in the Johannesburg-Pretoria area, where they will be based and where all three of their matches are scheduled.

The U.S. opens against England in Rustenburg on June 12, plays Slovenia at Ellis Park in Johannesburg on June 18, and closes group play against Algeria on June 23 in Pretoria. You could just hear the confidence in the U.S. players' voices as they discussed Friday, Dec. 4, 2009, draw.

They will sorely miss forward Charlie Davies, who is recovering from a horrific car accident, and there is no guarantee that AC Milan defender Oguchi Onyewu will be healed from a knee injury. But the Americans shrugged off the absences and truly sounded like players who belong in the World Cup, rather than kids playing dress-up.

"Clearly, the expectation level around the sports fans and soccer fans is that we've got a good chance to advance," Landon Donovan said. "For those of us who were there in 2006 first-round exit, we've been waiting a long time for this opportunity. We still have to wait six months to get there, but this is everything to me."

"Anytime now that we don't advance, we're going to be disappointed. That's our expectation level now, as a team, and that's good, that's healthy that we're to that point."

Absolutely, Landon.

Healthy, indeed. It's also a sign of the evolution of soccer in this country that the draw ceremony was not only televised live by ESPN2, but

it was glamorized. Talking heads sat around a table dissecting the eight groups ad nauseam, the way they do the NCAA basketball teams during Selection Sunday for March Madness.

It was a true pleasure sitting there for two hours, listening to Alexi Lalas, John Harkes, Efan Ekoku and Steve McManaman blather on about the Americans and the Group of Death (Brazil, Portugal, Ivory Coast and North Korea). It wasn't that long ago you couldn't find World Cup matches on TV, let alone the World Cup draw.

I was ecstatic with the draw," Lalas said. "I think it's the best group the U.S. has drawn in a World Cup—I have for many, many years fought this snobbery that exists about everything that happens over in the U.S. soccer-wise is second-rate and not good enough. Well, here's an opportunity for the U.S. and guys like Landon Donovan to prove they have to ability to compete and play well against what a lot of people perceive to be in England as a superior level of soccer."

Here, here. Nelson Mandela, the 91-year-old Nobel Peace Prize winner, addressed the draw audience via video screen Friday. He said that after much cynicism surrounding the South African bid, his country was "ready" to host the world.

"It's time," he said, to a rousing ovation.

The same can be said of the U.S. team. It's time. They're ready. Let's get this party started. Can't wait six more months.

Competition, diabetes strengthen friendship

Lady Pirate golfers more than just a love for the game

By Adam Geigerman
Sports Editor
sports.inkwell@gmail.com

Allison Smith and Victoria Bennett, two Lady Pirate Golfers in their sophomore year at AASU, are not only teammates and tremendous competitors, but they are also the best of friends.

The two have known each other since their junior year of high school when they both participated in the Georgia Junior Golf Tour. Smith was a cheerleader and golfer at Stephens County High School in Toccoa and Bennett golfed and played basketball at Pierce County High School in Blackshear.

Because the golf tour paired them together nearly every weekend, they were able to maintain their friendship despite living at opposite ends of the state.

Their close relationship brought their mothers together as well; it was through their mothers' friendship that the two golfers learned that they would both attend AASU, and another lucky coincidence led to the two choosing to become roommates on campus in 2008.

The pair quickly became inseparable. On top of sharing an apartment, they took all their classes together, shared the same group of friends and competed against each other, whether at workouts, practice or tournament qualifiers.

The transition from being a high school student athlete and a student-athlete in the NCAA was not always easy though.

"School is school, but then balancing golf on top is like having another full-time job," Bennett said. Bennett competed in four tournaments for AASU, posting a personal high finish of T23



Photo by Hank Sharpe

Sophomores Victoria Bennett (left) and Allison Smith have maintained their friendship despite competing against each other.

at the LRC/ Myrtle Beach Intercollegiate on Oct. 6-7. She posted a score average of 85.0.

The transition for Smith became more complicated than school and golf as her first semester continued. At the beginning of October, Smith began experiencing symptoms of unquenchable thirst, blurry vision, extreme fatigue, increased hunger and weight loss.

"She ate everything in the pantry, fridge and at the cafeteria but was still losing weight," Bennett recalled.

"I thought I was dying; I would wake up four or five times a night with terrible cramps," Smith said.

After being hammered by suggestions, mainly from Bennett, Smith went home before the Thanksgiving holiday in 2008 and visited her personal physician, who immediately admitted her to the Intensive Care Unit with a blood glucose level of more than 900.

A healthy person's body

maintains a level between 70- 120, and the symptoms of a coma begin to appear at 800.

After seven days in Stephens County Hospital, Smith was released with a type 1 diabetes diagnosis.

Smith had to adjust to the disease, including the inability to drive for over a month. Smith also missed the final weeks of fall semester, including finals.

"It was overwhelming, figuring out what I couldn't eat and all the counting carbs," Smith said.

Smith and Bennett said they shared a "Hollywood moment" with a sincere and dramatic embrace when they reunited in January 2009 to begin spring semester.

"I didn't feel normal when I came back. I felt like an outcast, like everyone would stare at me when I checked my blood sugar," Smith said.

Bennett had to make the adjustment to life with diabetes, too. She learned how

to react to an emergency situation, in case Smith's sugar levels spiked or plummeted. She also joined in with Smith's low carbohydrate/ no sugar diet.

Smith was considered unable to compete in spring 2009, but she continued to work out and practice with the team.

Doctor's appointments dominated her schedule. She had to make the roughly six-hour drive to her doctor in Toccoa every third Friday.

Her life got somewhat easier on her birthday, April 10, when she was put on an insulin pump rather than having to take six daily insulin shots.

Meanwhile Bennett continued to compete and posted great scores throughout spring. She qualified for and competed in five tournaments, posting a sixth-place finish with an average score of 80 at the Dana Rader Intercollegiate tournament in March. Bennett finished her freshman sea-

Pirates' Plunder

AASU Sports Trivia, previews and more

By Luke Armstrong
Staff Reporter



AASU Sports Trivia

- 1.) What teams other than the AASU men's basketball squad are winless in the PBC so far this season?
- 2.) What was the AASU men's basketball team record in the PBC last season?
- 3.) What is the longest PBC losing streak in the men's basketball team's history?
- 4.) Who leads the men's squad in scoring average so far this season?
- 5.) Who has played the most minutes for the men's team during the first 12 games of the year?

Check your answers at the bottom of the page.

On the horizon

Men's Basketball:

Jan. 16



Vs. GCSU

Last time AASU played them—
2009 Win 68-60

Last season's record: 22-7

Jan. 18



Vs. Montevallo

Nationally ranked No. 13
12-0 (2-0 PBC)

Jan. 20



At Lander

Last time AASU played them—
2009 Win 81-67

Women's Basketball:

Jan. 16



Vs. GCSU

Last time AASU played them—
2009 Loss 70-58

Last season's record: 17-11

Jan. 18



Vs. Montevallo

This season: 7-5 (0-2 PBC)

Jan. 20



At Lander

Last time AASU played them—in
PBC tournament, Loss 83-63

Fall 2009 boasts program firsts, playoff finishes and broken records

By Zachary Sinclair
Staff Reporter

2009 is over and the final semester of AASU athletics will be long remembered as one that produced deep postseason campaigns, record-breaking performances and a revival of a once-dead program.

The Pirates carried on their tradition of competitive spirit and attitude in women's volleyball, women's soccer, cross country and men's and women's golf.

Volleyball

Pirate volleyball has come on strong yet again by bringing in a strong recruiting class that posted a 27-10 record, advancing to the NCAA Southeast Regional.

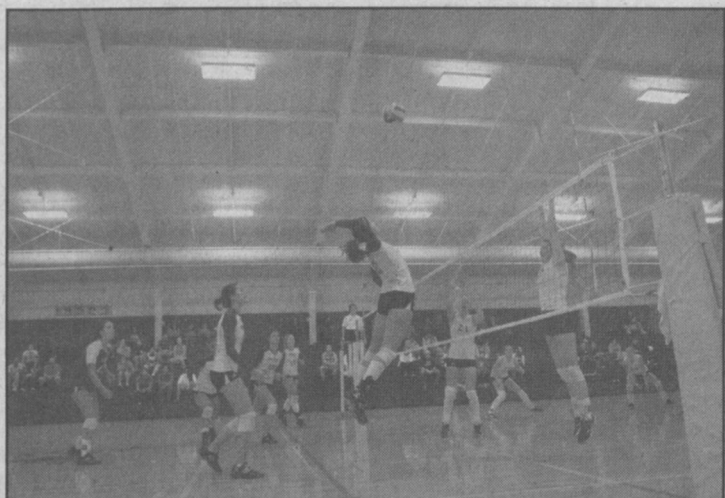
Volleyballers Amy Birke-meier, Torrie Bevollo and Casey Howett were named to the Peach Belt Conference's Volleyball All-Academic Teams; while the American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) awarded Katherine and Michele Remlinger with All-Southeast Region honors. The AASU volleyball program looks to build off of its 2009 success while only losing five senior athletes.

Soccer

Soccer also had a great year with a 16-4-3 record and a trip to the second round of the Division II NCAA tournament.



File photo



File photo

Kristin Burton broke the PBC career scoring record of 84 goals. She was named to the 2009 National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Division II All-American First Team. Burton was also a NSCAA All-American First Team honoree as a freshman in 2006. The PBC's all-time leading goal scorer and a three-time PBC Player of the Year, Burton finished 2009 second in the nation in points (76) and third in goals (31). The Lady Pirates finished their 2009 campaign ranked 23rd in the NSCAA Division II top 25 rankings and look to climb the rankings in 2010.

Cross-country

The cross-country team competed in its first season since 1999. Mark Lewis and David Prussia put on a strong showing finishing 47th and 49th in the 8K course at the conference championships. The all underclassmen team will look to compete at a higher level now knowing what all is in front of them and what is



Photo courtesy of Sports Communications

needed to get to the next level.

Golf

Men's and women's golf showed they got what it takes to compete with the stronger teams and look to capitalize on momentum they gained in the fall and use it going into the spring. The men's team did not finish below 17th in their tournaments and the wom-

en's team did not finish below 13th. The men's team signed three early recruits that ranked among the top 300 of the junior scorecard rankings. The addition of the upcoming Pirate golfers set high expectations for future seasons.

AASU Sports Trivia Answers

- 1.) Columbus State (0-2), Georgia Southwestern (0-2) and Lander (0-5) are all winless in conference play as of Jan. 12.
- 2.) The Pirates finished last year with a record of 15-5 in the Peach Belt and ranked third in the conference.
- 3.) During the 2001-2002 season the men's team went on a seven conference-game losing streak.
- 4.) Averaging 16.1 points per game, Patrick Shokpeka currently leads the Pirates in scoring this year.
- 5.) Starting guard Chris Vanlandingham has played 435 out of 480 possible minutes, more than any other Pirate.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Cameron's 'Avatar' makes history

By Eric Roberts
Staff Reporter

Does James Cameron's sci-fi epic have what it takes to make history?

"Avatar" is a project over a decade in the making. Originally slated to be a follow-up to his 1997 film, "Titanic," "Avatar" was held off not only for immense budgetary constraints, but also because Cameron wished to wait until special-effects technology was mind-blowing enough to "keep up" with his story – and the investment definitely shows.

"Avatar" opens up introducing the main character, Jake Sully (Sam Worthington), on his way to the planet Pandora for military service – taking the place of his deceased twin brother in the Avatar program, a transfer of consciousness to custom-grown bodies resembling the dominant species on Pandora, the Na'Vi. At first, Jake finds his new assignment harsh; the hardcore marines laugh at him for being a paraplegic soldier and the scientists disdain him for his lack of experience in Avatar training.

Before long, Jake becomes fully functional in his Avatar and his services are underhandedly recruited by the devious Col. Miles Quaritch

★★★★★

4 out of 5 stars

A Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation Production
Written/Directed by James Cameron
Starring Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana, Sigourney Weaver and Stephen Lang
Rated PG-13 for intense epic battle sequences and warfare, sensuality, language and some smoking
IMAX 3D



As an epic battle approaches, Jake (Sam Worthington, left), Grace (Sigourney Weaver), Trudy (Michelle Rodriguez) and Norm (Joel David Moore) plan their next move in "Avatar." (Mark Fellman/Courtesy Twentieth Century Fox/MCT)

(Stephen Lang) to report on head scientist Dr. Grace Augustine (Sigourney Weaver) and find a way to move the Na'Vi village off of a very precious mineral deposit.

As Jake takes his Avatar to the Na'Vi and assimilates to the culture, he learns to adapt and empathize with the native people, falling in love with the Na'Vi high-priestess-to-be. Aided by the Na'Vi, his fellow Avatar pi-

lots and the experiences on Pandora, Jake moves to find which side he'll take in the inevitable conflict: Human or Na'Vi.

"Avatar" is definitely an experience worth having. Though some dialogue is cringe-worthy, and while the story is moderately predictable, the trance-inducing visuals (tailor-made to the digital projector) and the immensely creative art-direction make this movie a sight to behold. Avatar takes the

guise of a sci-fi epic with the form of the timeless mythic legend.

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'Nine' modernized '8 1/2' remake

By Eric Roberts
Staff Reporter

The story of "Nine" revolves around the troubled and brilliant young director, Guido Contini (Daniel Day Lewis) as the deadline for his film shoot approaches. The entirety of Italy awaits his next masterpiece; the press is abuzz, the costumes are in full prep and the starring actress (Nicole Kidman) is flying in – but Guido has yet to even start the script.

Guido races around Italy to escape the press, hiding in hotels and meeting with random women, juggling not only his failing film, but also multiple affairs between separate mistresses and his own wife, Luisa (Marion Cotillard). At every turn Guido is reminded of his flop films and waning successes, and his ego explodes inside his own head, launching a good many songs of lament.

The film as a whole looks incredibly well-polished. The cast has more stars than the Milky Way, and they're not ashamed about flaunting that little fact. The problem is, as sharp and beautiful as the cinematography and acting are and as troubling and heavy as some of the scenarios get, the film lacks a certain necessary chemistry. "Nine" has a way of gripping you in certain scenes and then being completely dramatically void in others; it's very flow-breaking to have one scene ramped up with sex or emotion while the next simply revolves around a smoke break.

The film is very pretty to look at, and the whole thing looks nice on paper, but it mostly appeals to fans of musicals, the process of film or sadistically biting dramas.

★★★★★
3 out of 5 stars
A Weinstein Company Production
Directed by Rob Marshall
Starring Daniel Day Lewis, Penelope Cruz, Marion Cotillard and Judi Dench
Rated PG-13 for sexual content and smoking

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'The Road'

By Eric Roberts
Staff Reporter

The film adaptation to Cormac McCarthy's best-selling novel has been under immense scrutiny, and expectations from many are bound to be challenged. So what do I think of the film in comparison to the book? I think it's a lot better, and on its own the film warrants more attention.

The film centers around two main characters, father (Viggo Mortensen) and son (Kodi Smit-McPhee), as they travel in a hauntingly real post-apocalyptic world. The plot to the story is relatively nonexistent; the only objective is to follow the road and move to the coast.

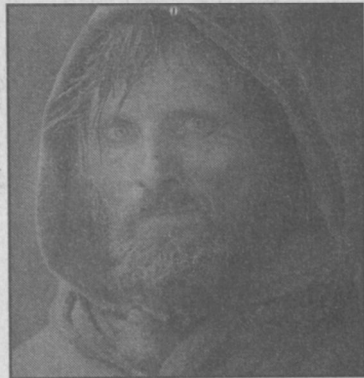
Along the journey, The Man and The Boy have flashbacks and pangs for their destroyed past lives, but as their challenges come with more and more frequency, they find that they have no energy left for emotion or longing. In the world of "The Road," danger lies around every bend, and the enemy is everyone – everyone left, that is.

"The Road" is a film lovingly put into the visual realm, taking directly from the pages of the novel, while at the same time eliminating most of its problems,

★★★★★

3 out of 5 stars

A Dimension Films Production
Directed by John Hillcoat
Starring Viggo Mortensen, Robert Duvall, Charlize Theron and Guy Pierce
Rated R for some violence, disturbing images and language



Viggo Mortensen stars in John Hillcoat's "The Road," based on Cormac McCarthy's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel. (Javier Aguirresarobe/The Weinstein Company/MCT)

specifically with incredibly slow pacing between action cues that seem of no consequence. Problems do exist throughout the film, and they are worth noting.

For fans of typical storytelling, this movie may be hard to jump into. As stated before, no definite plot exists, no exact villain is prevalent in the story, and by the end of the movie the story hasn't really moved in any particular direction, which will either be emotionally appreciated or scornfully disdained. As far as apocalyptic fiction goes, "The Road" is actually pretty lazy. All in all, it's a beautifully cleaned-up retelling, but for fans of more linear movies, "The Road" might not be for you.

'Sherlock Holmes'

By Eric Roberts
Staff Reporter

After so many Sherlock Holmes reincarnations, Hollywood may have finally found a match to coincide with the interests of the typical mainstream audience. In this new, sleek, CGI-packed edition, Robert Downey Jr. takes on the new-and-improved mantle of Holmes, replacing the tidiness of classic Sherlock with a rowdy frat-boy demeanor, watering down his old cocaine use by turning it into a rampant case of alcoholism – miraculously maintaining razor-sharp deductive wit throughout.

As the story opens, Holmes and Watson (Jude Law) are on their last case together, stopping a nefarious sacrificial ritual in the bowels of 19th-century London. Shortly after arrest and trial, the dark priest responsible, Lord Blackwood (Mark Strong), hails prophecy of his imminent resurrection and is

promptly hung. From there, Watson pronounces him dead, the duo returns home to wrap up things, and everything seems business-as-usual except for one large detail; it soon becomes apparent that Watson is packing to move out and marry his fiancé, leaving Holmes to solve cases on his own.

Before Watson has time to go anywhere, the police come to bring news of Lord Blackwood's resurrection and new murder spree in London, leaving Holmes to find him. The movie follows the duo and Sherlock's rogue love interest, Irene Adler (Rachel McAdams), as they race against the clock to stop Blackwood and his small legion of sorcerers before London comes under storm.

Overall, if this movie is anything, it's entertaining. Downey Jr. and Law make a believable partnership on



Jude Law, (from left) Robert Downey Jr. and Rachel McAdams star in the Warner Bros. Pictures' and Village Roadshow Pictures' action-adventure mystery, "Sherlock Holmes," distributed by Warner Bros. (Alex Bailey/Warner Bros. Pictures/MCT)

the screen that everyone can truly side with. Yes, it's overly-CGI'd here and there and no, it's not exactly revolutionary, but the heart-pounding pace, the snarky wit, and the ever-thickening plot will keep most audiences completely immersed in the experience.

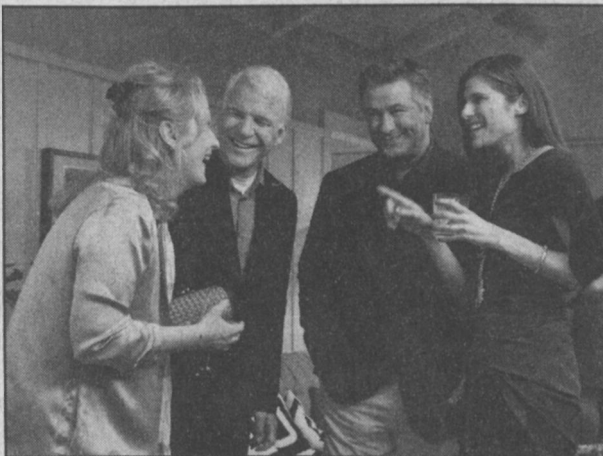
★★★★★

3.5 out of 5 stars

An Internationale Filmproduktion Blackbird Dritte Production
Directed by Guy Ritchie
Starring Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law, Rachel McAdams and Mark Strong
Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of violence and action, some startling images and a scene of suggestive material

Check online...
for reviews of:
"Youth in Revolt"
"It's Complicated"
"Daybreakers"
"The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus"
theinkwellonline.com

(Left to right) Jane (Meryl Streep), Adam (Steve Martin), Jake (Alec Baldwin) and Agness (Lake Bell) share a scene in the comedy "It's Complicated." (MCT)



Stay
Entertained
in Savannah
Weekend Music

Dare Dukes & the Blackstock Collection graces the Sentient Bean on Friday, Jan. 15, at 8 p.m. Savannah-based Duke will play songs from "Prettiest Transmitter of All," featuring his acoustic guitar stylings highlighting his poetic lyrics. \$6 cover.

American Aquarium returns to The Jinx on Saturday, Jan. 16, at 11 p.m. A laid-back group, on MySpace the band describes its musical perspective as "a blend of honest songwriting, an unwavering work ethic, and a genuine love of rock & roll." Cover TBA.

At The Movies

Jan. 15 sees the release of "Book of Eli," starring Denzel Washington, among others. In the not-too-distant future, across the wasteland of what once was America, a lone warrior (Washington) must fight to bring civilization the knowledge that could be the key to its redemption and save the future of humanity.

Jackie Chan's latest vehicle, "The Spy Next Door," releases the same day. A man is asked to baby-sit his neighbor's children and winds up having to protect them from secret agents after one of the kids accidentally downloads a code.

Culture

The Poetry Society of Georgia's Poetry Reading Series features Chad Davidson at the Telfair Academy on Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. Book sale and signing after the reading. 121 Barnard St. E-mail tony@tonymorris.org.

Without a Cue Productions presents "Dead Men Don't Speakeasy," an interactive murder mystery dinner theater at Il Pasticcio, Jan. 16-18 at 7 p.m. 2 E. Broughton St. Reservations required. Call (912) 231-8888.

Stay Home



"Fame" and more

The DVD release of "Fame" features more than 15 minutes of dance footage not shown in theaters.

Tyler Perry's "I Can Do Bad All By Myself," "Halloween II" and "Post Grad" also come out on DVD this week.

Nexus One first impression: A sleek Google phone, worthy vs. iPhone

By Frank Michael Russell
San Jose Mercury News
(MCT)

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Call it the Google challenge: After a few hours with the new Nexus One, would this long-time Apple fan be willing to trade in his iPhone? The short answer: It's very, very tempting.

The Mountain View, Calif., Internet giant loaned the San Jose Mercury News a Nexus One running on T-Mobile's 3G network. The phone actually is made by Taiwan-based HTC. At first glance, it's so sleek, stylish and sexy, we were almost wondering: Where's the Apple logo?

The user interface — powered by the Android 2.1 operating system — is attractive — in a minimalist, functional and Google-esque manner. Initially, it's not very intuitive, but it doesn't take long to learn.

Nexus One:

— What I like: Sleek, sexy styling; functional, minimalistic interface; tiny trackball; listening to Pandora and checking Facebook at the same time.

— What I don't like: Sometimes balky touch screen; not quite as intuitive as the iPhone; weird "Nexus One" name.

— If you want one: Go to www.google.com/phone. It'll cost you \$179 with a two-year T-Mobile contract or \$529 "unlocked." If you can wait a few months, you can get it with a Verizon contract.

One nifty feature is a tiny trackball. Once you get used to it, the trackball makes navigating Web pages speedy — and prevents fingerprint smudges on the 3.7-inch touch-screen.

At first, I assumed the trackball was like the iPhone's home button, but instead, the Nexus One has a "home" icon, one of four lining the bottom of the screen. The other three are "back," "menu" and (of course, it's Google!) "search."

Mike Swift, who covers Google for the Mercury News, set up the phone in just a couple of minutes with his existing Google account and downloaded several apps from the Android Market.

I tested Web browsing; checking news, weather, e-mail and Facebook; and using Google Maps navigation for a quick walk from the Mercury News to our near-

est corporate coffee chain. All performed as well as my iPhone and with the agility you'd expect from Google.

Many of the apps allow for voice control. A test e-mail I sent using voice technology unfortunately wasn't exactly what I said. However, voice searches for MercuryNews.com and "finance-dot-google-dot-com" took me exactly where I wanted to go.

You can use the touch-screen keyboard for e-mail and other apps, but that can be awkward (just like with the iPhone). The Nexus One (again like the iPhone) helps out by suggesting complete words as you type.

I downloaded Pandora, the free music service, from the Android Market. The phone warned that Pandora puts a heavy strain on the wireless network — so you'd want to make sure you have an unlimited data plan. Downloads also inform you what personal data they need to work.

Google pre-loaded some music on the test phone, and you can buy downloads from Amazon.com's MP3 store. Music streamed at a fidelity comparable to what I'm used to from the iPhone. And as I listened to Pandora while checking Facebook, it suddenly occurred to me: I can't do this on my iPhone.

(By the way, the Nexus One is perfectly adequate as

2.4 in. (60 mm)

4.7 in. (119 mm)

3.7 in. (94 mm)

Soft keys: Back, Home, Menu, Search

Trackball

Source: Google

A super phone

Google unveiled its Nexus One, the newest smart phone on the market.

The goods

- Runs on Android 2.1
- Touchscreen navigation; screen landscape and portrait
- \$179 with two-year contract with T-Mobile; \$529 with no plan
- 512MB Flash capacity, with 4GB card; can be expanded to 32GB
- Power and battery

On 3G network, in hours	
Talk time	7
Standby	250
Internet use	6.5
Video playback	7
Audio playback	20

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A look at Google's new Nexus One phone, which has similar features to Apple's iPhone. (MCT)

a phone, although I didn't have a chance to test the voice connection very far from the Mercury News.)

A couple of negatives: The touch-screen itself was balky at times, which was frustrating for someone used to the iPhone's responsiveness. And the name! "Nexus One" sounds more like a bad science fiction movie from the early '80s than a cutting-edge "superphone," as Google calls it.

You can buy one at www.google.com/phone for \$529 unlocked — meaning you can use it month to month on any compatible network —

or for \$179 with a two-year T-Mobile contract. Verizon Wireless plans to offer it in the spring.

Oddly enough, this writer (recently sprung from a contract with AT&T) is in the market for a smart new phone. I might very well buy a new iPhone, but a few hours with the Nexus One has made that a much harder decision.

11 games you should have played in 2009

By Scott Jones
Crispy Gamer
(crispygamer.com)
(MCT)

Like insects that only live for one day in their winged form, or the haunting, whimsical films of Nicolas Cage, video games are ephemeral by nature. They have their one, shining moment — typically on a Tuesday — and by Wednesday morning, poof, into the ether they go, never to be heard from again.

It's sad, really. I feel it's my personal duty as a gamer to dig those forgotten titles out from under the avalanche of copies of "Tony Hawk: Ride" and "Madden NFL 2004" and "Let's Tap." It's my job as a celebrator of this medium to rescue them, to give these games shelter inside the dry warmth of an Xbox 360 or a PlayStation 3 (if only for a night or two), and to love those beautiful, misunderstood and misbegotten games that never really had their day in the sun.

Here are 11 games from 2009 that never got their day.

11. "Wolfenstein" (360, PC, PS3; August)

Notice the glowing blue skull-faced Nazi zombie on the box cover. If this doesn't scream BUY ME to you, then I'm totally de-friending you on Facebook, you unfeeling jerk of a person. This is probably my favorite box cover of 2009. Yet no one bothered to judge this book by its cover or play this game. Part of the blame has to go on Activision. It didn't really promote "Wolfenstein" at all, and kind of just let it out the way that someone might let out a fart in church. (Quietly.) But the single-player campaign, while clichéd at times (lots of Nazis standing around red barrels), is still ridiculously fun. And bonus

points for tossing in the weapon of the year — the Particle Cannon — which, quite literally, melts everything in its path.

10. "A Boy and His Blob" (Wii; October)

This is the artful story of a boy and his white blob friend from outer space. The game gets off to a slow, low-key, artful start, which I'm sure many critics never made it past before deciding to toss this game in the crap heap. I say: Stick with it. This is one of the most charming, most endearing, and best of all, funniest games of the year. Give it some love.

9. "Overlord II" (360, PC, PS3; June)

Sending your Gremlin-y Minions off to terrorize villagers was sublime fun in "Overlord," and it's even more fun in the sequel. Credit writer Rhianna Pratchett for penning some of the year's funniest dialogue. And the sight of seeing the Overlord slump into his throne for the first time? Priceless.

8. "Soulcalibur: Broken Destiny" (PSP; September)

I was really pretty burned out on the fighting-game genre in 2009, with the sole exception of this surprising effort from Namco Bandai. I loaded it up with the lowest of expectations on a road trip to PAX last year, and wound up playing it obsessively for days. And the inclusion of "God of War's" Kratos? That's gravy.

7. "X-Men Origins: Wolverine" (360, PC, PS3, Wii, PSP, DS; May)

Yes, it's a third-person ac-



Videogames are ephemeral by nature. They have their one, shining moment — typically on a Tuesday — and by Wednesday morning, poof, into the ether they go, never to be heard from again. One of the forgotten games of 2009 was "The Chronicles of Riddick: Assault on Dark Athena." (MCT)

tion game. Yes, it's pretty dull and borderline crappy by most standards. Yet I found myself returning to this game again and again in 2009, especially during those midnight-to-3-a.m. gaming sessions, when I don't want/need to have my brain or my fingers taxed too much. If you're looking for fluff, you can't do much better than this.

6. "Wet" (360, PS3; September)

My attraction to the game's star, Rubi Malone — hi, Rubi! — was enough to get me through the game's awkward training levels. And while the whole operation ultimately proves to be more style than substance — including a final boss battle that turns out to be a non-starter — when the style is this good, who cares? This was another game that I found myself returning to during the wee, small hours.

5. "PixelJunk Shooter" (PS3; December)

The words "PixelJunk" and "Q-Games" have become synonymous with humble little addictive games of incredibly high quality. (See also: "PixelJunk Eden" and "PixelJunk Monsters.") And this one is no exception. Take those bottles/cans from your awesome New Year's Eve party to the redemption center and use the money to buy

this game. (It's \$10.)

4. "House of the Dead: Overkill" (Wii; February)

As a general rule, all light-gun games should be ignored until further notice ... with the glorious exception of this one. The game's seedy milieu and B-movie-caliber characters — hello, Papa Caesar — coupled with some decent shooting action, makes this game the equivalent of a good Chinese dinner. In other words, you'll feel full after 20 minutes of gameplay, but you'll be hungry for more in an hour or so.

3. "Wanted: Weapons of Fate" (360, PC, PS3; March)

This is one of those junky throw-away movie/comic-book tie-ins that we've all trained ourselves to ignore. The shooting action is fairly pedestrian, until the game gives you the ability to curve bullets. For anyone who has ever been annoyed by an enemy who refuses to come out from cover, this ability was made for you. Also worth mentioning: the thrilling shootout aboard an airplane, which might be the second-most exciting level of the year (after "Uncharted 2's" train level).

2. "Ratchet & Clank Future: A Crack in Time" (PS3; October)

It's easy to understand why you might have overlooked

this one. Sony and Insomniac have been pumping out superb "R&C" games on a regular basis for eight years now. In fact, no series in history has probably ever released so many titles of such high quality in a shorter period of time. This one is the best yet. The Clank-centric time-manipulation puzzles alone — which are as good as anything in Portal — are worth the price of admission. Bonus points for my second-favorite weapon of the year: Mr. Zurkon. Buy it. Play it. Love it.

1. "The Chronicles of Riddick: Assault on Dark Athena" (360, PC, PS3; April)

Sure, part two of the disc — "Assault on Dark Athena" — is uneven and overly difficult. But the original, up-rezzed "Chronicles of Riddick" stands tall as one of the great action games of all time. If you haven't played it, man, are you ever in for a treat. And if you have played it, play it again. Trust me, you've forgotten how good it is.

Minority students growing in number at some college campuses

By Jenna Ross
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)
MCT

ST. PETER, Minn. – The growing diversity of college campuses can be measured in numbers, figures and graphs. Abdul Suleyman hasn't seen the pie charts, but he has seen the cafeteria.

"When I was a freshman, there were only three or four black guys," said the 22-year-old senior at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minn. "People would have us confused. It went from that to now, there's maybe 15 of us."

At Augsburg College in Minneapolis Tereza Ponce de Leon is part of the most diverse freshman class in history.

The color palette on college campuses is changing.

Thanks in part to a big jump this fall, the number of students of color going to college is way up. From suburban community college campuses to small-town schools like Gustavus, the growth goes beyond statistics. These students are changing how professors teach and campuses feel.

"It's a fascinating moment," said Paul Pribbenow, president of Augsburg College and chair of the Minnesota Private College Council. "We're in constant conversation about what this means and what a gift this is."

Classes change, but how?

College was "always a big dream" of Ponce de Leon's. A program for low-income students called Admission Possible helped her focus her ambitions. Pregnancy narrowed her college search, but it only heightened her commitment to going. "I had to think not only about myself, but what would be better for the future of my son."

This fall, students of color make up 43 percent of the first-year, daytime undergraduate class at Augsburg. In total, a full quarter of the college's undergraduates are students of color _ up from 8.6 percent in 2001.

Augsburg has lots of company. Enrollment of undergraduates of color is up nearly 90 percent in the last decade at the 17 member schools of the Minnesota Private College Council. Meanwhile, white enrollment grew less than 4 percent.

In the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, the enrollment of low-income, minority and first-generation college students _ groups considered "underrepresented" _ is up 22 percent this fall over last year.

"We had not seen anything like it before," said Linda Baer, senior vice chancellor for academic and student

affairs.

Experts say the economy is one reason, but Terria Middlebrook, a 22-year-old student at Minneapolis Community and Technical College, sees something bigger going on:

"We are getting smarter knowing there is potential for us out there," she said. "Our President Obama is one example to us African Americans showing that we do have potential to succeed, but it's up to us to move forward."

"Pretty much college answers it all," she said.

We're here. Now what?

The big jumps in minority enrollment are the buzz of admissions offices around the country. With the college-age population decreasing and becoming much more diverse, colleges will need to recruit a more diverse student body to keep classrooms full.

But Augsburg Professor David Lapakko had heard the buzz one too many times. In early October, he wrote a post on the college's internal forum: "I must confess that I'm tired of hearing that the world _ and our classrooms _ are more diverse than in years past. To that I say, 'Well, duh.'"

Diversity is one of Augsburg's great strengths and "a critical part of a liberal arts education," Lapakko said. But with it come challenges that need to be discussed.

Teachers can make some changes easily, he said, like avoiding slang that confuses students whose first language is not English.

Not so easy is the "big question colleges have been forced to take a hard look at," he said. That is: How much are professors willing and able to change how they teach or what they teach to reach he class that now sits before them?

"It's kind of like the elephant in the living room," he said. "People don't want to talk about the bad parts of it, the difficult parts."

Getting students in the door is only one part of a college's job. Graduating them is another. Colleges and universities aren't as good at graduating students of color as they are white students.

Black, American Indian and Hispanic students are more likely to attend part time and less likely to graduate than white or Asian students, according to the Minnesota Office of Higher Education.

The office's 2009 report shows that at two-year schools such as community colleges _ where much of the growth is occurring _ fewer than half of the students of color either completed a credential or transferred to

another institution within three years.

"It's about not only bringing more people through the doors, but making sure that they are achieving and succeeding at the same rate," said MnSCU's Baer.

MnSCU is one of 24 public college and university systems that just pledged to shrink the gap in college-going and degree completion between their traditional population and low-income students and students of color by 2015.

White kids care, too

Cheng Lee first saw Gustavus as a high school senior in Upward Bound, a program designed to increase the number of low-income and first-generation students in college. He thought the hilltop campus was beautiful and liked the idea of getting away from the distractions of St. Paul, where his Hmong family lives.

He began giving campus tours his freshman year and has watched the campus change through the eyes of the visiting high school students. A decade ago, fewer than 5 percent of students at Gustavus Adolphus College were a color other than white. This year, about 12 percent are.

"They always ask about the diversity _ the numbers, the facts and figures," Lee said. "But the main selling point is actually seeing students of color. If they see them walking by and saying hi to me, they really respond to that."

White kids are asking about diversity, too.

"These kids at Eden Prairie, they're used to a diverse population in their school," said Mark Anderson, dean of admission and vice president for admission and financial aid.

Gustavus recruits white students whose applications show that they value diversity.

"We consider them equally important in order to be allies in what we want our campus to ultimately become," said Virgil Jones, director of multicultural programs. "It does me no good to recruit you to come to school here if the majority of the white students don't want you here."

The college offers all first-year, under-represented students, peer and faculty mentors. Advisers meet with each student every semester. Tutors set up shop in the college's diversity center, as well as the individual colleges.

But there's still room to improve, Jones said.

The college still deals with the occasional racist incident. The diversity of faculty and staff still lags. St. Peter could use a barbershop that knows black hair.

About 20 years ago, Anderson was mentoring a student who asked him: "You know why I sit in the front row?" He guessed wrong. "'No, Mark,' she told me. 'It's because I don't want to see that I'm the only one in the classroom who looks like me.'"

"Now, that doesn't happen anymore," he said. "And that's pretty exciting."

UPD issues parking tickets after 4:30 p.m. to students without decals

By Brittany Doctor
Staff Reporter

Campus parking is enforcing its policy on evening parking by issuing tickets to any student vehicle without a parking decal after 4:30 p.m. in any parking space on campus.

According to the AASU Traffic and Parking Regulations section V, "After 4:30 p.m. Faculty/Staff spaces are on open parking status except where posted near the Science Building and University Hall." This only includes vehicles with proper decals.

Chief Willcox of the University Police Department (UPD) said this policy has always been in effect, but for some reason, the majority of students do not know this or think that parking after 4:30 is permitted with or without a decal in any space.

"No one here seems to understand how that got started," Willcox said.

Willcox said parking decals serve many purposes but are mainly a way to ensure safety on campus.

"We want an idea of who's on campus and also how to get a hold of people for emergencies to have cars moved as quickly as possible," Willcox said.

He said when students register for a decal they are easily accessible, even more so if they are visitors on campus with visitor decals.

There is an exception for university events. Willcox said students can park in any space with or without a decal during an event on campus without being ticketed because in the event of an

emergency, people are more accessible and likely to be in the same place.

The money accrued from parking decals is used to maintain the roads and parking lots. Some money is even set aside for extra parking in the future.

Josh Felice, co-chair of the recently established Traffic Appeals Committee, said since its conception in the summer of 2009, the committee has worked with the campus police in order to give the Student Government Association (SGA) a larger role in the implementation of parking rules and regulations and has already begun to make suggestions concerning the current rules.

"Due to the infancy of the relationship between the committee and University Police, we have seen a few suggestions implemented but others are currently being considered," Felice said.

Neither UPD nor the Traffic Appeals Committee is authorized to make any changes concerning any policies of this nature. Suggestions are made by these groups and are reviewed by the Vice President of Student Affairs, Vicki McNeil, and a senior committee.

Ultimately, President Linda Bleicken makes the final decision.

Within the 2009-10 school year, there have been more than 2,000 vehicles ticketed for not having the proper decals. UPD issues about 200 tickets per day.

Willcox said this creates a significant shortfall in revenue. One Volkswagen has accumulated 14 parking

tickets, and Willcox said that if parking tickets are not paid, then the vehicle might be subject to a boot being placed on the car.

Students must pay a \$100 fee for a boot removal or for the car to be released from towers.

Twice this semester there were cases of students using fake decals for their vehicles. Copying any official documentation is against the law; the student who copies a decal could be arrested.

Bill Kelso, assistant vice president of student affairs, handles the judiciary process when it comes to the student code of conduct and decides whether or not to take further legal actions with the offender.

"During the next month, we will be enforcing more [tickets and boots]," Willcox said.

He advises every student to have a valid parking decal and for all visitors to have a visitor's pass.

Parking decals are \$50 for the year. Students can apply for a decal in the Bursar's office in Burnett Hall between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Classifieds

For Rent
\$625.00/mo—Spacious 1 BR apt. Midtown, 120 E 55th St. Large apartment with hardwood floors, brand new washer and dryer included. Convenient and safe Midtown location between Abercorn and Habersham. Call (813) 997 9030. Available Now.

Cheapbooks.com
Textbooks buybacks, multiple buyers gets you the most cash for your books, even no longer used editions. Buy, sell, rent at cheapbooks.com (260) 399-6111, Español (212) 380-1763.

Freshmen needed
Interested in making \$20.00 in less than an hour? Research study looking for freshman women to discuss high school experience.

Contact Regina Rahimi, Professor, Department of Middle and Secondary Education @ 344-2949



Gustavus Adolphus College recruits white students whose applications show that they value diversity. "We consider them equally important in order to be allies in what we want our campus to ultimately become," said Virgil Jones, director of multicultural programs. (Jenna Ross/Minneapolis Star Tribune/MCT)

